FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 DECEMBER 1986

Iran-Iraq War

IRNA reported that 22 civilians were killed and 48 were wounded in a 16 December Iraqi air raid on residential and industrial areas in Do Rud, southwest of Arak. An Iraqi spokesman cited by INA denied that residential areas were hit, stressing that the raid was targeted on a cement factory in Do Rud.

Lebanon

Camps War — A PNSF statement broadcast by Radio Monte Carlo said that Yasir 'Arafat's "deviant leadership" is "primarily responsible" for obstructing the 8 December cease-fire agreement because the continued presence of 'Arafat's forces in Maghdushah has impeded implementation of other clauses in the Iranian-sponsored accord. The PNSF reaffirmed its commitment to the agreement and urged the Amal Movement not to use the refusal of 'Arafat's group to withdraw from Maghdushah as a pretext to continue attacks on the Palestinians. A DFLP official attended the meeting which authorized the statement, the radio noted, but he withdrew to protest the condemnation of 'Arafat's group.

Lebanese-Syrian Contacts — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received an envoy of President Amin al-Jumayyil, Beirut radio reported, adding that their talks focused on ways to deal with the continuing crisis in Lebanon. An Algerian official who recently visited Lebanon told Kuwait's *Al-Siyasah* that he expects an Al-Asad-Al-Jumayyil summit in the near future.

Egypt

An Interior Ministry official cited by MENA announced that security police recently arrested 44 members of the "Revolutionary Current," a Marxist organization that sought to overthrow the regime and forcibly impose a communist system. The leaders of the group were arrested 12 December while attending a secret congress in Al-Jizah, the official said, while others were detained during searches in various governorates. Documents seized from the group's headquarters show that it sought to incite the masses and encourage the public to carry out "antiregime acts." The official added that those arrested include Muhammad 'Abd al-Mun'im Talimah, a professor at Cairo University Arts College.

Israel

Responding to President Husni Mubarak's recent public criticism of Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir urged the Egyptian leader to hold the dialogue directly rather than through the media, Jerusalem radio reported. Shamir asked visiting U.S. Senator Rudy Boschwitz to convey this message to Mubarak.

Saudi Arabia

Petromin Chief's 'Retirement' — 'Abd al-Hadi Hasan Tahir, the governor of the General Establishment for Petroleum and Minerals, was relieved from his post "by retirement," according to a royal decree cited by Riyadh radio.

Iraqi Message — Visiting Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz gave King Fahd a message from the Iraqi president concerning bilateral relations and issues of common concern, INA reported.

OPEC

Iran has called for Iraq's suspension from OPEC because of the Iraqi refusal to accept OPEC decisions, IRNA reported 17 December. Nevertheless, an Iranian oil official told the agency that "in order to prevent a deadlock," Iran will not protest if a portion of other members' quotas are allocated to Iraq. The Iraqi oil minister stated earlier that his country will never accept a cut in its oil production even if this causes the collapse of the current conference in Geneva, according to KUNA.

Kuwait

In a statement reported by KUNA, Crown Prince Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah warned that there are still elements in the country who are attempting to undermine national unity, but he added that the government will not allow them to succeed.

Libyan-Soviet Relations

Bilateral relations are at a high level and both countries are determined to raise them even higher, Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman Andrey Gromyko stated in remarks reported by TASS. Gromyko was speaking during "warm and frank" talks with visiting Foreign Liaison Secretary Kamil Hasan Mansur, TASS noted. Mansur subsequently stressed that his talks with Soviet leaders were "extremely beneficial and fruitful," according to Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio.

Sudan-Iran

Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi arrived in Iran 17 December at the start of a 4-day official visit, Tehran radio reported.

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Najibullah Returns From Visit to Moscow

Cables Gorbachev En Route

LD162020 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib, while passing through Soviet airspace on his way back from the official and friendly visit to the USSR sent a telegram addressed to General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M. Gorbachev. The telegram says in part: The productive result of Afghan-Soviet talks in Moscow will provide favorable conditions for the peaceful solution of the events around Afghanistan.

The telegram adds: The people of Afghanistan will always remain faithful to its fraternal friendship with the Soviet Union — a friendship whose foundation was laid by the great Lenin. We will never forget that in a difficult time the Soviet Union assisted our country by lending a hand of friendship and assistance.

Views Results of Visit

LD162036 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] This afternoon General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee Comrade Najib took part in a broad meeting held in the Storey Palace of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended by a number of full and candidate members of the Politburo, secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee, officials in charge of departments of the PDPA Central Committee, personnel of the Central Committee apparatus, a number of officials of the Kabul city and district party committees, officials of the party committees of Kabul City's wards, ministers, heads of the state committee and departments of the DRA, a number of secretaries of the primary party organisations of Kabul City, and officials of social organizations.

At this meeting Najib spokes in detail about the preliminary results of the visit to the Soviet Union by the DRA high ranking party and government delegation.

In an atmosphere of explicitness and openness, which is one of the most important component parts of the reconstruction of party and political work, Comrade Najib spoke in detail about the talks and meetings carried out by the Afghan delegation with the Soviet leadership headed by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev.

Comrade Najib highly assessed the visit of the high-ranking Afghan delegation as an event of exceptional importance for the consolidating of fraternal Afghan-Soviet relations, attaining of a peaceful solution of the issues around Afghanistan, and achieving national reconciliation and restoration of peace and security in the country. He expressed the enormous gratitude of the party and government leadership and the people of Afghanistan for the Soviet Union's constructive stand and all-round support for our country.

Discusses Visit With Workers

LD162353 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Speech by PDPA Central Committee General Secretary Najibullah at a tractor factory in Tashkent on 13 December — recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear Comrade [name indistinct], dear friends and comrades, dear workers, and experts: We have just returned from Moscow. This is our first meeting with you after our official and friendly visit in the Soviet Union. A few hours have passed from our sincere and friendly meeting with General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev and other members of the party and state leadership of the Soviet Union. This visit emphasized the unshakeable friendship between our countries, the foundation of which has been laid by V.I. Lenin.

Our delegation comprehensively discussed the revolutionary changes that have taken place in our ancient land and in connection with measures taken toward achieving peace through national reconciliation. With great interest we became acquainted with the great tasks being carried out in the area of realizing the decisions made at the last congress in the Soviet Union. Our meeting with M.S. Gorbachev was unforgettable. These meetings and discussions are of great importance for our people.

Comrades, (?allow) me to convey to you the revolutionary greetings of the toilers of Afghanistan from the bottom of my heart. [passage omitted]

We will always remember that it was the working class of Russia that for the first time in the world officially recognized our independence. We will never forget that in the difficult years, when our newly victorious revolution was at the abyss of elimination; when international imperialism, regional reaction, and the internal counterrevolutionaries were (?openly) dragging our revolution to the abyss of annihilation, the working class of the country of Soviets came to our help. Your sacrifices in the name of revolutionary solidarity are immeasurable. The names of your sons will forever live in the future memorial columns of our country and the victory of our revolution. Brothers, on behalf of all the Afghan patriots and all our persecuted people, thank you. [passage omitted]

However, our work is taking place in the most cruel conditions of the undeclared war where half of our economy, inevitably, is engaged in defending the country. [as heard] Every second afghani of our budget, every second meter of the manufactured fabrics, and every half of the baked bread, goes for the soldiers of the revolution.

The damage imposed on the country's economic life as a result of the subversive deeds of the counterrevolutionary bandits has reached the large sum of over 50 billion afghanis. Its dimension is constantly being broadened because (?robbery) is continuing. Under these circumstances our workers are still more firmly being (?organized) around the party and revolutionary government. The primary party organizations are being created in every productive enterprise and in most mixed and private enterprises.

So far, 17,000 workers have gained PDPA membership. The workers form the foundation for the DRA trade unions. The workers voluntarily join the ranks of the Armed Forces and temporarily lay down the tools of their work. [passage omitted] [passage indistinct]

The Afghan patriots and internationalists will become victorious. We will use all our efforts so that peace is restored in our persecuted land. We will use all our efforts so that the toiling people find the possibility for safe work for the tranquility of their people and revolution.

Long live proletarian internationalism. Long live friendship between Afghan and Soviet workers.

We will become victorious. [Word indistinct] the workers will become victorious. [applause]

Pakistani Border Violation Claims Rejected
LD131749 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] The charge d'affaires of Pakistan's Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Foreign Ministry at 1400 hours today and the following points were made to him by the first political section director:

Pakistan's military authorities, in order to cover up their aggressive actions, have claimed that DRA military forces violated the regions of (?Terry Mangal, Arawari) and Landay Pass on 19 and 20 November and also on 4 December.

The DRA Government, after all-round assessement and investigation, considers these claims by the Pakistan Government far from the truth and rejects them resolutely. It demands that Pakistani military authorities end such groundless claims which do nothing but aggravate the situation on the borders.

Armed Forces Capture Rebels, Seize Weapons
LD161720 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] As a result of the successful operations carried out by the Armed Forces in (Shengal Abad), (Dewari-Maydan), and Shur Tappeh villages, Balkh Province, 12 armed counterrevolutionaries were captured and a number of these criminals were crushed.

The BIA military correspondent reported that as a result of these successful operations 3 recoilless guns, 3 Chinese-made rocket launchers together with their 17 rockets, 2 heavy machine guns, 14 launching units for surface-to-surface missiles, 16 various U.S. and Chinese-made weapons, together with (?33) boxes of ammunition, and a large number of antipersonnel mines were seized.

During these operations, a number of surface-to-surface missiles and other various weapons and enemy propaganda leaflets [word indistinct] were also destroyed.

The report adds that after the crush and arrest of the armed counterrevolutionary bands, over 80 youths of this region voluntarily showed preparedness to join the ranks of the Armed Forces and to discharge their patriotic role in crushing the counterrevolutionary elements and to restore nationwide peace in the country.

AFP Reports 67 Killed in MiG Raid 8 Dec
BK131644 Hong Kong AFP in English 1640 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Dec 13 (AFP) — Two Soviet MiG warplanes Monday [8 December] attacked Qandahar, southeastern Afghanistan, killing 67 people, the Afghan resistance news agency AIP Saturday quoted travellers arriving in the Pakistani border town of Chaman as saying. The agency said 150 people were injured in the attack.

The Soviet planes attacked villages around Qandahar, killing eight women and children, before bombing buildings that housed offices of the ruling party, the Afghan Khad secret service, and the militia, the report said.

The agency quoted Qandahar Radio as giving contradictory versions of the incident, reporting first that the raids were made by Pakistani and American planes, but later saying that Soviet pilots had bombed civilian areas by mistake. [passage omitted]

Kabul Reports Rebel Attacks in Parvan Province
LD111743 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Dec 86

[Text] Savage counterrevolutionaries, once again resorting to inhuman actions, have martyred seven of our innocent compatriots and injured four others and caused bereavement to a number of our compatriots in Parvan Province. According to a report by the BAKHTAR military affairs correspondent, these mercenary criminals launched long range surface-to-surface missiles made in the imperialist countries, on the city of Charikar, Parvan Province. They killed a number of our compatriots and destroyed a number of houses.

The citizens of Charikar strongly condemned this savage and inhuman action which was carried out by the Golbuddin criminal band, and demanded that the country's security authorities hand these murderers over to revolutionary justice and punish these people who are serving their imperialist masters with the blood of our innocent people.

According to the report by the BAKHTAR military affairs correspondent, six other innocent compatriots were injured when counterrevolutionary elements attacked the villages of (Sofian) and (Laghmani), Parvan Province, with heavy weapons used at long range. The report adds that two elderly women and four children were injured in this incident.

According to another report, four innocent inhabitants of the village of (Rabat), Bagram District, Parvan Province, were seriously injured by the explosion of a mine which had been planted on a public road.

It is worth mentioning that the cowardly attacks by counterrevolutionary elements against our toiling people have been carried out at a time when peace loving mankind is on the point of celebrating Human Rights Day; and counterrevolutionary bandits of Afghanistan, with the encouragment of their imperialist masters, are resorting to open violation of human rights in the DRA by martyring women, children, and the elderly.

Reportage on Actions by Afghan Mujahidin

Mujahidin Nearly Control Qandahar

BK160231 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, 400 Kabul regime soldiers reportedly joined the mujahidin during an attack by the Soviet-Kabul regime forces on mujahidin positions in the Arghandab subdivision of Qandahar Province. The attacking troops suffered heavy losses and were forced to retreat. According to a report, Qandahar is now practically under mujahidin control.

Soviet-Kabul Post Attacked 14 Dec

BK140945 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin recently attacked a Soviet-Kabul military post in Parvan Province and killed 10 soldiers. In another attack on a border post in Herat Province, the mujahidin reportedly killed several security men stationed there.

Soviet MiG Downed 14 Dec

BK141118 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 14 Dec 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin shot down a Soviet MiG plane which was bombing the rural areas of Khowst. The pilot and crew of the MiG were killed. Another report says the Soviet-Najib troops were forced to retreat from Qala Surkh to (Chikal) under the pressure of constant operations by the mujahidin.

13 Soviet-Kabul Troops Killed 13 Dec

BK131128 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say 13 Soviet-Kabul troops have been killed in a recent attack on the military post of Qandahar customs house by the mujahidin. The mujahidin are also reported to have destroyed four helicopter gunships at (Badram) airport in the Parvan Province. It was the fourth attack of the mujahidin on the airport in a month.

Soviet-Kabul Security Posts Hit

BK130809 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin wiped out two security posts of Soviet-Kabul regime in Paghman valley recently. They also killed 12 Soviet-Kabul troops in the operation.

Soviet-Kabul Convoy Attacked 28 Nov

BK130638 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin attacked a Soviet-Kabul Army convoy traveling on Shindad-Herat highway on 28 November, killing 18 Soviet-Kabul soldiers. The mujahidin also damaged six armored vehicles and military trucks. In another attack on the Soviet-Kabul military convoy at (Sufidasht) near Qandahar, the mujahidin reportedly damaged a number of tanks and heavy artillery pieces.

Gandhi Receives Notes From Gorbachev, Council

BK161735 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] The Soviet Union has expressed its conviction that the recent visit of Mr Gorbachev to India will be of major significance in strengthening relations between the two countries. This has been stated in replies to the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi's two messages of greetings to the Soviet leadership on the 69th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

One of the messages is from Mr Gorbachev as general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party to Mr Rajiv Gandhi in his capacity as Congress-I president.

The All India Radio correspondent says the message is a personal gesture at the highest level, though no institutional links exist between the two parties.

The other message has been sent to the prime minister by the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union. It says the traditional friendship and fruitful cooperation between India and the Soviet Union has been a major factor of peace and stability in Asia and the world. The results of the recent visit of Mr Gorbachev are of major significance. It has given new and powerful impetus to the further development of the entire complex of Indo-Soviet relations, the message says.

Cooperation Agreement Finalized With USSR

BK161021 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have finalized a long term agreement for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation. The agreement was finalized in a meeting of the visiting Soviet Industry minister, Mr Dinkov, and the petroleum minister Mr Brahm Dutt in New Delhi.

Moscow has offered to provide technical know-how to Hopin institute in Bombay for the manufacture of various vaccines. This followed a meeting between the 7-member Soviet delegation led by the health minister, Dr S.P. Burenkov, and the chairman of the institute, Dr R.K. Goel, in Bombay. Dr Burenkov lauded the scientists for the work being conducted at the institute.

Editorial Calls Gorbachev Visit 'Fruitful'

BK161155 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English
29 Nov 86 p 10

[Editorial: "A Fruitful Visit"]

[Text] New Delhi has every reason to be satisfied with the outcome of the four-day visit of the Soviet leader Mr Mikhail Gorbachev to this country. The visit has not only marked an upswing in economic and technological cooperation between the two countries but has yielded a welcome Soviet clarification of important political issues which have of late caused much concern in India. Uppermost in the minds of most Indians was how Mr Gorbachev viewed the U.S. policy of pumping enormous quantities of the latest weapons into Pakistan for the ostensible purpose of helping it to cope with the Afghan situation. In his address to Parliament, the Soviet leader reaffirmed his country's commitment "to act" under the Indo-Soviet treaty of friendship and cooperation "should a complicated situation arise." Indians will naturally hope that Islamabad and Washington will take due note of this. Mr Gorbachev was equally forthright in reassuring New Delhi that his move to mend fences with China did not imply any diminution in Soviet interest in maintaining close ties with India. In his words, his country "will not take a single step in its foreign policy that could damage India's real interests." He also sought to put the India-China relations in a wider context when he observed at his press conference that improved Sino-Soviet relations would create a better atmosphere in which mutual trust between different Asian countries would increase. Significantly, he made it a point to express the hope that both India and China would act "with due sense of responsiblity". The clear implication was that in the Soviet view both countries would do well to adopt a conciliatory attitude.

New Delhi has anxiously watched the increase in military activity in the Indian Ocean. In particular, there have of late been disturbing reports of unusual movements of U.S. ships in the Arabian Sea, presumably as a part of the American bid to raise the level of U.S.-Pak military cooperation. Mr Gorbachev signalled his appreciation of India's anxiety on this score by reiterating Soviet support for convening an international conference in 1988 to take up the implementation of the UN declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. He has in fact put forward a five-point plan for a gradual reduction of the size and activities of naval forces in the Indian Ocean. New Delhi will have to subject this plan to close scrutiny. There can be no objection in principle to the multi-lateral negotiations envisaged in the plan for different purposes. But India and other littoral states will naturally be keen to ensure that wider arrangements of any kind will not infringe their own right to take all legitimate measures of self-defence.

Mr Gorbachev's keen interest in promoting an Asian collective security system is well known. He first mentioned it to Mr Rajiv Gandhi during the latter's visit to Moscow last year. He put the idea into sharp focus in his widely publicised speech at Vladivostok last July. There was inevitably much speculation on whether he would try to elicit from Mr Gandhi a public endorsement of this proposal in some form or other. It is more than probable that the subject cropped up during the ten hours of private talks between the two leaders. But Mr Gorbachev conspicuously desisted from making a pointed reference to the collective security move in his public statements in New Delhi. In his address to Indian MP's, he did note with gratification that "the Soviet Union and India share the same approach to the idea of establishing a comprehensive system of international security." But this was in the context of the Delhi Declaration and could not have been meant to be even an indirect reference to his Asia-Pacific security plan. It is only at the non-official function organised by the Friends of the Soviet Union and the Indo-Soviet Friendship Society that the Soviet leader spoke of the plan. This suggests that he was fully aware of the Indian government's reservations regarding this project. For instance, in his banquet speech on the first day of Mr Gorbachev's visit, Mr Gandhi, while describing the Soviet security proposal as "thought-provoking",

advocated an alternative approach based on a step-by-step development of harmonious relations. Apparently, Mr Gorbachev decided not to press the issue for the time being. His failure to obtain Indian approval of his Asian security plan notwithstanding, the talks turned out to be fruitful. This is doubtless a measure of the mature understanding of each other's points of view displayed by both sides.

Paper Views Loans From USSR, Government Debts

BK161315 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 29 Nov 86 P 10

[Editorial: "Fiscal Compulsions"]

[Text] Indo-Soviet economic cooperation is so taken for granted that announcements at the end of summit meetings are treated as routine. Given the seventh plan's priorities, the areas in which the two countries have agreed to co-operate were predictable. The USSR is to help out in four specific areas: the Tehru hydroelectric projects, onshore drilling, underground coal mining, and the Bokaro steel plant. Each of these projects might have been delayed had the rupees that will now become available as a result of the Rs 2,000 crore credit line not been forthcoming. Further, since these projects are to be executed on a turnkey-basis, final completion is perhaps the least one can expect. The Soviet record in this respect is quite good. But it is not easy to be so sure about the credit itself. While there is no need to look a gift horse in the mouth, specially when the domestic resource position is so tight, the massive credit does raise a pertinent question: Why was it necessary when India is running a trade surplus of over Rs 700 crore with the USSR and when over 70 percent of the precvious credits have not been utilised? The answer perhaps lies in the accounting methods adopted by the two countries. Still it is not easy to ignore the suspicion that the immediate provocation in asking for and obtaining the huge line of credit was mainly fiscal the greater-than-anticipated budget deficit that is building up in the books of the Finance Ministry.

It is worth pointing out, however, that though the loan is on very easy terms at the average rate of two percent payable over 17 years- and will not serious strain the exchequer, it does point to two inconsistencies in what the government has been saying and what it is doing. The first is that despite exhortations to the contrary, the government is living beyond its means and filling the gap in revenues by borrowing. When the state governments do this, they are severely chastised and sometimes even penalised. Since the underlying causes of runaway esxpenditure at the Centre and the states are the same, it seems unfair that two different sets of rules should apply. Secondly, the Finance Ministry has been repeatedly pointing out how the burden of debts servicing — along with subsidies — has been squeezing central finances. It has now borrowed as much as Rs 2,000 crore. Though the annual addition to the interest payments will be small, some concern for principles, by which Mr V.P. Singh sets so much store, would surely be in order. Governments, like individuals, must practice what they preach. Otherwise they run the risk of not being taken seriously.

Editorial Views Trade Prospects With USSR

BK051449 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 22 Nov 86 p 12

[Editorial: "Indo-Soviet Trade"]

[Text] For the first time in several years, trade between India and the USSR has fallen short of the target by nearly 25 per cent. The immediate explanation for this disturbing development is the fall in oil prices. (The lower oil import bill from the USSR has been duly reflected in the trade turnover figures). Since oil prices are likely to remain relatively low for some time, and because oil accounts for nearly 70 per cent of the non-military imports from the USSR, the target for next year has been fixed at a lower level. If all goes according to expectations, then the two sides can claim that things are back on an even keel. Technically, this will be true. But the preoccupation with technicalities — like book transfers that balance trade even when reality is very different — is not particularly useful. The fact of the matter is that where exports are concerned, the USSR is like a developing country, being mainly an exporter of minerals like coal, oil, and natural gas. The picture looks different, of course, if its arms exports are included. But those fall in a special category.

The particular composition of the export basket clearly has to do with the nature and structure of the Soviet economy, which ensures that the USSR manufactures very little of what are called tradeable goods. This is as much a consequence of the priorities set by Soviet planners as of the generally low level of Soviet technology. Thus, those wishing to trade with the USSR must either buy minerals — to which there is a limit — or low-tech capital equipment. The third alternative is to reduce trade or, in an extreme situation, not to trade at all. For India, the latter alternatives can be ruled out. Inevitably, therefore, increases in trade between the two countries must come from higher trade in manufactures. India, with its vast capacity to service Soviet consumer demand, is well placed to do this. Meanwhile, trade continues at politically determined prices. For the present, there is a distinct advantage for India in this because it is short of dollars and trade with the USSR is designated in rupee terms.

'Gang of Pakistani Spies' Arrested in Jammu

BK161733 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] In Jammu, police have arrested a 3-member gang of Pakistani spies. One of the arrested is Abdul Khalida, the kingpin of the gang.

PRC's Geng Biao, Delegation Visit Provinces

BK170343 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Leader of the Chinese National People's Congress delegation Geng Biao has again said that the Chinese people hold their Pakistani counterparts in high esteem and greatly value their friendship with Pakistan. He made these remarks during a meeting with Punjab Governor Makhdoom Muhammad Sajjad Hussain Qureshi in Lahore yesterday. The provincial governor on his part referred to the growing bilateral cooperation in every sphere of life and thanked China for its support on the Afghanistan issue, which, he said, has encouraged Pakistan.

Earlier, the Chinese delegation had a meeting with North-West Frontier Province Governor Fida Mohammad Khan who observed that relations between the two countries are deep-rooted and are being maintained not only on the level of the two governments, but also on the level of the two peoples.

The Chinese delegation visited Jamrud in the Khyber Agency, where they were accorded an enthusiastic welcome by the tribal chiefs.

Welcoming the delegation on behalf of the tribesmen, Haji Malik Ghuliz Khan Kukikhel thanked China for providing humanitarian assistance to Afghan refugees and for supporting Pakistan's principled stand on the Afghanistan issue.

PRC's Wu Xiuquan Visits; Speaks on Trade Ties

BK151619 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English
2 Dec 86 p 8

[Text] Karachi, Dec 1 — Mr Wu Xiuquan, leader of the Chinese delegation from the Beijing Institute of International Strategic Studies, has said that with the economic development now taking place both in China and Pakistan, trade and economic relations between the two countries are likely to show further all round improvements.

Speaking at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Karachi here this morning, he observed that both China and Pakistan are developing countries, which have witnessed great economic progress during the past few years. He hoped that there would be more exchanges and trade relations would show an appreciable improvement as the two friendly countries achieve further economic progress in the years to come.

Mr Wu, referring to the existing trade imbalance between China and Pakistan, said that during the exchange of business relations trade imbalance is bound to occur. China also has imbalance in its trade with the United States and a very imbalance with Japan, he said.

He said that China is fully aware of this situation and to correct the imbalances in trade, committees have already been set up in his country to study this problem and suggest remedial measures.

Mr Wu assured the business community that since China and Pakistan are close friends, he will bring this problem to the notice of Chinese Minister for Foreign Trade so that measures could be taken to improve trade between the two countries and also correct the existing imbalance.

He expressed the hope that business community here would also make necessary efforts to reduce the trade imbalance between China and Pakistan.

Earlier, Mr Khalid Tawab, Acting President, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Karachi, welcoming the Chinese delgation pointed out that the traditional friendship and cordial relations have not reflected in Pakistan, China trade relations in a big way.

Pakistan's imports from China which were Rs. 1891.3 million in 1981-82 have gone up to Rs. 1954.2 million in 1985-86. As against this, Pakistan's exports to China estimated at Rs. 1559.7 million in 1981-82 had gone down to Rs. 294.9 million in 1985-86.

Similarly, he said Pakistan's exports to China in 1984-85 amounted to Rs. 1033.7 million and imports were estimated at Rs. 2465.2 million.

Pakistan's main exports to China have been urea fertiliser, leather and leather products, minerals, marbles, cotton madepus, while Pakistan imports from China consist of: Chemicals, machinery, paper and paper products, tea, medical and scientific instruments etc.

The balance of trade is not only persistently against Pakistan but with the passage of time is growing. While there is an ample score for trade expansion both in terms of value and variety, China should examine the possibilities of importing more goods from Pakistan.

The volume of such goods like surgical and dental instruments, sports goods, footwear, fruits, vegetables can be raised besides ensuring increase in the traditional items of export. Already the commercial contacts between China and Pakistan are growing through frequent exchange of trade delegations, commerical, literatures and businessmen and officials to each other's country on a large scale and holding of fairs and exhibitions etc, which would pave the way for further expanding the bilateral trade relations.

Mr Tawab said that Pakistan is now on the threshold of industrialisation and greater emphasis is being laid on the rapid development of iron-based and agro-based industries. Some beginning has already been made for setting up joint ventures in Pakistan through the collaboration of China.

Karachi Still Tense; Hyderabad Curfew Relaxed

BK161543 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] In Karachi, curfew was in force in most parts of the east and west districts today. Law enforcement agencies continued patrolling the affected areas. Most business centers, shops, and educational institutions remained closed and movement of government and private vehicles was withheld. The situation

remained tense throughout. Reports have also been received about violence in some parts of the city.

Hyderabad District officials announced that curfew will be relaxed for 2 hours from 0800 [0300 GMT] to 1000 [0500 GMT] tomorrow morning in Hyderabad and Latifabad.

Curfew was relaxed for 2 hours from 0800 to 1000 this morning. The situation in the city remained under control and there was no report about any untoward incidents from any part of the city barring some minor incidents such as burning tires and stoning vehicles on the roads.

Press Note Reports 2 Killed

BK161745 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] A press note issued by Karachi officials tonight says the overall situation remained peaceful and no untoward incident was reported. But law enforcement officials had to open fire on some people who were committing arson and violating curfew restrictions in Orangi, Manghopir, (Janwarat), (Panch Colony), and Liaqatabad police station areas, killing two people and injuring four. Curfew will be relaxed in the city tomorrow morning from 0700 [0200 GMT] to 0900 and in the afternoon from 1600 to 1700.

Ziaul Haq Urges Forging of Unity

BK161730 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has assured the people that the government is taking every possible step to bring the situation in Karachi under control. He said this while addressing the people who gathered in large numbers at the hospital lawns after visiting the injured under treatment in Abbasi Shaheed Hospital in Karachi today. He urged the people to forge unity and to cooperate fully with the government in identifying the culprits to give them exemplary punishment. Later, the president visited the violence affected areas of Shah Faisal Colony and reviewed the loss caused by the miscreants. He expressed his sympathies with the victims and assured them that law enforcing agencies will fully protect them.

Junejo Calls for Stringent Action

BK170255 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo reviewed the law and order situation at a meeting in Karachi this afternoon and instructed the local authorities to take every possible step to restore peace and order. He asked them to take stringent action against miscreants and antisocial elements.

The prime minister also met with editors this evening and discussed with them the situation prevailing in the city. He briefed them on the steps being taken to normalize the situation and to foster a spirit of brotherhood among the people. The editors also gave their opinions about the situation.

Meanwhile, a press note issued by the Hyderabad District magistrate says that after the relaxation in curfew restrictions today, a shop near (Takri Huzoor) was burned down and the records of the Settlement Survey Department were set on fire. The fire was controlled immediately, but the building was partially damaged. A truck was also set on fire in the (Phuleli) area of the city. There are also reports of some incidents of burning of tires and barricading of roads in various parts of the city.

Karachi Controlled; Curfew Relaxed

BK171122 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] In Karachi, curfew was relaxed for 2 hours from 0700-0900 [0200-0400 GMT] this morning and is being again relaxed about now for 1 hour. In Hyderabad, curfew was relaxed from 0800-1000 [0300-0500 GMT] this morning. No untoward incident has been reported from anywhere during the period.

Talking to newsmen in Lahore today, the federal interior minister, Mr Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak, said the situation in Karachi is now under control. He said the government is conducting an inquiry into the recent incidents and results will be known very soon. The interior minister expressed deep grief at the loss of life and property in the recent riots.

Pakistan's Sind Governor Visits, Meets Hameed

BK111129 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 11 Dec 86

[Text] The governor of Pakistan Sind Province, Lieutenant General Jahandad Khan, paid a call on the minister of foreign affairs, A.C.S. Hameed, at the ministry in Colombo this morning. Gen Khan's visit is one of the series of high level meetings between Pakistan and Sri Lanka. It follows a very successful visit to Sri Lanka of President Ziaul Haq in December last year.

Gen Jahandad Khan reiterated the close links between Sri Lanka and Pakistan alluding to the importance of regional cooperation following the recent conclusion of the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit in Bangalore. He discussed matters of mutual interest with Mr Hameed and also ways of increasing contacts at various levels between the two countries.

Gen Jahandad Khan will be in Sri Lanka until 16 December. During his stay here, he will visit several places of interest, including the vast Mahaweli scheme.

Report Considers Present Government 'Illegal'

BK130317 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] The Sri Lankan Parliament witnessed uproarious scenes yesterday when opposition members protested against the government's motion to refer to a select committee a recent report of the election commission. The report has pointed out serious malpractices in the 1982 referendum in the country which extended the life of the then parliament by 7 years.

The opposition members charged that the motion moved by the prime minister, Mr R. Premadasa, was an attempt to stifle the voice of the people. The Sri Lankan Freedom Party MP, Mr Lakshaman Jayakody, wanted guarantee that the opposition will not be prevented from bringing a vote of no-confidence on the issue.

The leader of the opposition told our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumdar, that the election commission's report has made the continuance of the government in office illegal.

AFP: Tamils To Declare Independence 1 Jan

BK121202 Hong Kong AFP in English 1151 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] Colombo, Dec 12 (AFP) — Tamil separatists are to declare the establishment of an independent Tamil state in Sri Lanka on January 1, a usually reliable independent source in the north said Friday. Meanwhile the government reported four more deaths in the separatists' guerrilla campaign.

About 2,000 armed members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam separatist group plan to march through the northern town of Jaffna to mark the declaration of the formation of an independent state called Eelam, the source said. The Tigers have distributed throughout Jaffna posters and handbills stating that all public institutions and businesses there would be closed on January 1 to allow the people to take part in independence celebrations. At least two other Tamil separatist groups are likely to join the Tigers in their action, the source said. Sources in the security forces said troops in the north had been put on full alert.

Meanwhile the state Media Centre reported here that police had found the bodies of two Tamils and one Moslem abducted and then shot dead by Tamil guerrillas in the northeastern district of Trincomalee on Wednesday.

One civilian was killed and one member of the security forces wounded in fighting on Thursday between Tamil separatist guerrillas and government forces at Ariampattu in the east. Some 16 suspects were arrested and troops recovered 36 hand grenades.

Tamil guerrillas wounded three civilians and a policeman when they opened fire on a train from Colombo to Batticaloa just short of its destination later on Thursday, the centre said. The wounded were taken to hospital.

The separatists are fighting for an independent Tamil state in the largely Tamil north and east of Sri Lanka, a country where Sinhalese form the majority.

Muslims Propose Muslim Provincial Council

BK131215 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] A delegation from the Council of Muslims led by Dr Badruddin Mahmud met President Jayewardene last Wednesday [10 December] to present some proposals for a Muslim provincial council covering majority Muslim areas in the eastern province. Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed; Mr W.M.P.B. Manikwiela, secretary to the president; and Mr Filix Dias Abeysinghe, secretary to the political parties conference, were also present at the discussion.

In a statement issued later, Dr Mahmud said that they had pointed out that according to the 1981 census the 3,800 square mile eastern province had a 33 percent Muslim, 24 percent Sinhalese, and 43 percent Tamil population. The delegation had urged that the proposed Muslim provincial council should include the present Kalmunai, Samanthurai, and Pottuvil electorates in the Ampara District as its base.

The statement said that although the other proposed units are noncontiguous with the base, they were administerable from the base on the Pondichery model in India. Dr Mahmud said that the president had assured the delegation that its proposal will be given due consideration before any finality is reached on the matter.

Tamil Radio Criticizes India, PRC Over Dispute

BK131639 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in English 1330 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] China has protested strongly to India about the recent bill passed in the Lok Sabha which makes the territory of Arunachal

Pradesh the 24th state of the Indian union. China has claimed that the colonial rulers of India annexed Arunachal Pradesh at a time when China itself was very weak and unable to defend the integrity of its territory. In 1962, India and China went to war over the territory and China still claims 32,000 square kilometres of territory that is under Indian rule.

The most interesting question that arises here is why these two massive countries, beset with economic, administrative, and population problems, should wish to gain control of the poor, underpopulated area like Arunachal Pradesh. Even from the strategic point of view its value is limited. The answer, of course, lies in the eternal conundrum of power politics; a desire to acquire possessions, whether they be territorial or otherwise, is a necessary feature of the nation-state. The solution to the problem lies outside the whole concept of nation-states and has to do with self-determination. If India and China want a lasting solution to this problem, they should leave it to the people of Arunachal Pradesh to decide with whom they wish their future to lie. Of course it might be neither.

75 Reported Killed in Rival Tamil Clashes

BK161133 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] LANKA PUWATH reports that about 75 terrorists have been killed in intense battles between the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and the EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front]. Quoting Jaffna residents, it has [been] said that the war between the two rival groups had erupted as a result of the support extended by the EPRLF to Jaffna University students over the kidnapping of the undergraduate, Ambalavanan Vijitharan, allegedly by the LTTE.

[Words indistinct] report said that the LTTE was continuing its hunt for members of rival groups in an attempt to further strengthen their control over the north and the east. Last May, the LTTE killed the leader and more than 150 members of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization.

AFP Reports Further

BK150530 Hong Kong AFP in English 0516 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Text] Colombo, Dec 15 (AFP) — At least 50 members of two rival Tamil separatist groups were killed and over 300 others captured as factional fighting continued in northern and eastern Sri Lanka, reliable sources said Monday. Fighting between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the most hardline Tamil separatist group, and the Eelam Peoples Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), which started Saturday, is expected to continue until the LTTE achieves its aim of wiping out the rival groups, the sources said.

The EPRLF has been mauled in the northern Jaffna peninsula with all its camps there attacked and taken over by the LTTE, the sources said. Over 300 EPRLF members have surrendered and some of them are being held captive by the LTTE while others have been disarmed and sent away, the sources said.

LTTE officials were touring Jaffna town, the capital of the province, calling through loudspekers on other EPRLF members to surrender, they said. Checkpoints in the town which had earlier been manned by the EPRLF were now under LTTE control, the sources said.

Nearly 50 separatists, mainly of the EPRLF, have died in clashes in the northern and eastern Sri Lanka, sources in the two provinces said.

The LTTE suffered its biggest reversal in northern Mullaittivu Saturday when eight of its members were killed in an attack by the EPRLF, they said.

Another rival group, the EELAM Revolutionary Organisation [of Students] (EROS) Sunday issued a statement in Jaffna condemning the LTTE attacks on the EPRLF, Jaffna sources said. EROS said that when Tamil separatist groups should be united in their fight to win their demands, the latest round of factional fighting was dissipating their efforts, they said. EROS has called an end to the internecine strife, the sources added.

The latest clashes between the rival groups came as Sri Lanka and India were preparing to resume their dialogue to find a solution to the separatist problem. Two Indian ministers, Palaniappan Chidambaram and Natwar Singh, were due to meet Madras-based separatist leaders and Tamil Nadu officials Monday to discuss the latest formulations by Sri Lanka on its peace package which aims at setting up provincial councils to give Tamils a greater say in running their affairs. The two ministers are expected to arrive in Colombo Tuesday for discussions with President Julius Jayewardene and senior ministers for possibly three days starting Wednesday, informed sources said. The main issue is the Tamil demand for a merger of the northern and eastern provinces with the LTTE insisting of establishing itself as the sole representative of the Tamil separatist movement, the sources added.

Delhi: 7 Killed in Violence in Batticaloa

BK130859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, seven persons were killed this morning in violence at Kalmunai in the eastern Batticaloa District. A violence sparked off when Tamil militants fired at a police patrol party, killing a subinspector and two constables and injuring two others. Following the incident some unidentified men killed at least four civilians, including a woman, in Kalmunai. A rice mill and a number of shops and houses were also set ablaze. Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumdar, reports that an unofficial curfew has reportedly been declared in the area.

In an unconnected incident a village leader was shot dead by militants in Eravur hospital where he was undergoing treatment.

SAIRI Leader Opens 3d General Assembly Meeting

LD161839 Tehran IRNA in English 1815 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 16, IRNA — The Third General Assembly of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) titled 'Islamic Unity' was inaugurated here Tuesday, coinciding with the start of SAIRI's sixth term.

At the inaugural ceremony SAIRI Chairman Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Baqer Hakim said that the sixth term starts at a crucial time when the Islamic Revolution has entered a new phase. Global arrogance has been forced to retreat and the Islamic Revolution has seriously asserted its presence in all arenas, he added.

Hoj. Hakim stressed that SAIRI is the axis around which the Iraqi Muslims's valiant struggle against the Baghdad regime revolves. Till the eventual toppling of the Iraqi regime and the establishment of an Islamic government in Iraq, all Iraqi opposition forces should actively participate in SAIRI affairs, he remarked.

A conference on Iraqi people's cooperation, involving all Iraqi groups opposed to the Ba'thist regime ruling Iraq is to be held in Tehran from December 22-30.

Hoj. Hakim said that most of Iraqi forces outside Iraq have announced their readiness to be actively involved in the struggle against the Baghdad regime. Various ways for coordinating these forces will be studied at the forthcoming conference, he added.

Head of the committee for Iraqi affairs Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Salek also spoke at the ceremony saying that SAIRI is the only true representative of Iraqi people and duly recognized by the Islamic Republic.

SAIRI has always been at the forefront of the struggle against the Iraqi Ba'thist regime and should endeavor to gather all Iraqi dissident forces both in and outside Iraq under its umbrella to crown the final glory, said Salek.

Hoj. Salek outlining the issues to be discussed in the forthcoming conference said that the main topic will be Iraqi Muslims's efforts for expansion of political activities at international scenes. Among other issues to be discussed are ways for backing the dissident groups, the imposed war, as well as the Iraqi Ba'thist regime's violation of international norms and human rights, he added.

Spokesman on Downfall of Iraqi Regime

LD162012 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] In an interview to the press this afternoon Spokesman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mahmud Hashemi described the aims behind the convening of the conference of solidarity with the Iraqi nation. He said that the downfall of the Saddam regime in the near future was certain and, denouncing the French Government's recent decision to deliver 60 Mirage-2000 aircraft to Iraq and Italy's step to give 6 warships to Iraq, referred to these moves as demonstrating their hostile stance toward the Iraqi nation.

Warning the arrogant countries and mercenary regimes in the region who are assisting Saddam against the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, he also declared: Such deeds shall not go unanswered by the Iraqi nation and strugglers.

The SAIRI spokesman added: Bearing in mind the sensitive conditions determining the war — which will in turn determine Iraq's fate — and in order to create solidarity and unity in the field of armed struggle; to make use of the struggling Iraqi forces; to study the course of the revolution and Iraq's political future; to bring closer the viewpoints of the struggling Iraqi forces; and to clarify the minds of the world's people that despite the sinister and baneful propaganda conducted by the Saddam regime and world arrogance, the Iran-Iraq war is not one between the two nations' armed forces, but is rather that Iraq's various ethnic groups, viewpoints, and struggling forces, and that Islam's troops are waging a war against the 'Aflaqite Saddamist regime from a single trench, a conference will be convened between 24 and 28 December with the participation of all forces opposing the Iraqi regime.

He added: During this conference, five committees will be set up to study the strategy for a future Iraqi Government, the various methods for waging political struggle against the Saddamist regime on the international arena, the imposed war, and the manner of expanding the armed struggles of the Iraqi forces and human rights in Iraq.

In connection with the internal situation in Iraq and the morale of the Iraqi people who are along the path of serious struggle against Saddam, the spokesman of SAIRI said: According to reports received from inside Iraqi territory the situation in Iraq from economic, political, military, and security standpoints is increasingly weakening and the morale of the people and the Iraqi strugglers in waging their fight against the Saddam regime is extremely good. We are witnessing the breakdown and shakiness of the Saddam regime.

He added: The Iraqi people's morale with regard to participation in operations against the Saddam regime has soared and the people's fear and terror of this regime have subsided. The desertion of troops from the fronts and their refusal to serve as soldiers, the distribution of tapes and statements by fighting Iraqi personalities and the distribution of the publications of SAIRI and Islamic groups opposing the Saddam regime — all have spread among the Saddam forces, even among the Ba'thists. The Iraqi people are hoping that soon the satanical regime would be overthrown and that Saddam, too, will be relegated to the ash heap of history and that the revolutionary forces will return to their bosom.

In conclusion, regarding the form a future Iraqi government would take, the SAIRI spokesman said: The form and method of the future government of Iraq is an issue that will be determined and accepted by the will of the nation. In view of the wrongdoing of the non-Islamic countries, we both hope and believe that because the movement and course of our struggles

are Islamic, the government of this country, too, would become an Islamic one!

Abedi-Ja'fari Briefs Khamene'i on African Tour

LD161820 Tehran IRNA in English 1805 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 16 IRNA — Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari met president 'Ali Khamene'i here Tuesday and briefed him on the outcome of his recent visit to Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. The minister had carried President Khamene'i's messages to the heads of state of the said countries during his recent visit.

In the meeting Ja'fari informed the president that these African states were keen on expanding economic and trade relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and also informed the president on trade agreements between Iran and these African countries.

President Khamene'i in reply stressed on expansion of Iran's political, trade, and cultural relations with the African countries.

Ja'fari, heading a delegation, began his tour of the said African countries on 30 November.

French Ambassador to Tehran Said Selected

WA171306 London AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 29 Nov 86 p 10

[Text] French sources have affirmed that a prominent diplomat, Henri Servan, has been chosen to be France's first ambassador to Iran since the two countries' relations between them was downgraded to charge d'affaires. Servan is considered to be a prominent French expert on Middle Eastern affairs and particularly distinguished himself while he was occupying the post of French ambassador in Damascus for 5 years beginning in 1981. During his stay in Damascus, Servan established firm relations with a number of senior Syrian personalities. He also had strong relations with a number of Lebanese and Arab political personalities. However, the French sources explained that the French Government would not raise the level of diplomatic representation between France and Iran, and subsequently that its ambassador would not return to Tehran, until all the five French hostages being held in Lebanon are released or until "significant and important improvements" occur in Franco-Iranian relations.

Envoy Summoned Over Briton's Detention

LD162027 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Following the detention of an armed British citizen, Nicholas Yanis Nicola, in the Mirjaveh border zone in Sistan and Baluchistan Province, Mr Chapman, the temporary head of the British Interests Section in Tehran, was summoned to the Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry to render an explanation in this regard.

According to the *Islamic Republic News Agency*, some time ago the arrested British citizen shot at Pakistani border guards from inside Iranian territory, and after an armed clash with Iranian Gendarmerie forces was detained. Based on this report the passport and English documents obtained from the said person increased the possibility that Britain had worked out extensive programs to engender regional confrontations and turmoil. It is to be noted that the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Ministry of Information announced last week that a British spy named Roger Cooper, who had come to Iran under the disguise of a journalist, was arrested.

Meanwhile the Islamic Republic of Iran's responsible authorities are in search of other persons who have entered Iran and the region for the same purpose.

Clandestine Radio Comments on Hashemi Arrest

LD161408 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 1530 GMT 15 Dec 86

[Summary from poor reception] At this point, we draw your attention to a recent press conference given by Minister of Information Reyshahri, or the executioner of the Velayat-e Faqih regime.

Having engineered a television interview by Mehdi Hashemi, Reyshahri, himself, gave a press conference recently and commented on the activities of Hashemi. In this press conference, he accused Hashemi of trying to promote his deviationist ideology within the theological colleges, among the clerics, and within the Islamic Republic system. This appears to be the most serious accusation leveled against Hashemi, and this is the very core of the issue.

As far as the regime is concerned, it is perfectly acceptable to commit any offense as long as one does not entertain any independence of character or thought. "The arrest of Mehdi Hashemi and his group, which was carried out because of their revelation of the behind-the-scenes diplomacy pursued by the regime, could serve as a warning to all those who are not prepared to be identified with the treacherous policies advocated by the regime and, consequently, oppose it. Here, we are addressing those forces that do believe, within the context of sovereignty, in their homeland's independence and progress. These forces must break away from the anti-popular and the ruling reactionary ranks.

"To rescue the homeland from the (?yoke) of the black dictatorship of Velayat-e Faqih and its anti-popular and anti-national actions, join the revolutionary, democratic, and progressive forces."

Tehran Comments on Revolution, Individuals

LD161427 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0445 GMT 16 Dec 86

["On the Fringes of the News" program; unattributed commentary entitled "The Revolution and Individuals"]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Since the victory of the Islamic Revolution in our country, the revolution has constantly faced two external and internal issues. In

confronting foreign issues such as plots, coup d'etat attempts, attacks, and the imposed war, the Islamic Revolution has always been able to preserve its unity. All the members of the nation who created this revolution realize that the revolution survives solely through unity and obedience to the leadership in the face of crushing waves from abroad. All foreign plots have thus been foiled.

In confronting what occurs within the revolution — which of course is not unaffected by foreign factors — the revolution has easily overcome phases that seemed difficult. But, within the revolution, we have constantly faced the question of whether it is the revolution itself that is genuine, or individuals? Of course, from a certain point of view it should be considered that the revolution is not independent of the individuals in a nation which has created it, such as the society which has no external identity apart from its individuals. But naturally, alongside the general role of the nation in the revolution, certain individuals play assorted roles, according to their ability, in its organization. At the head of this group is the leader of the revolution, followed by government, revolutionary or cultural organizations, or persons in charge of them.

During the few years since the victory of the revolution our nation has been able to assess whether it is the revolution that is genuine, or whether it is individuals, or how far individual activities extend for the sake of the revolution. It is perfectly clear that if individual viewpoints become independent of the revolution and are implemented, it will lead to the revolution moving in different ways and collapsing. Cases such as Bani-Sadr, Qotbzadeh, the monafeqin [hypocrites], and most recently, Mehdi Hashemi, are all examples of viewpoints that were independent of the revolution. Of course, there is nothing wrong in simply expressing views; but if these views stand against the leadership of the revolution, or even go further, this situation is covered by this verse from the Hujurat chapter of the Koran which says: "O ye faithful, do not place yourselves above God and His messenger," — that is, the leadership of the revolution. For Rasul Allah was the first leader of the Islamic Revolution.

Those named, or those like them, were those who considered their views on the revolution so correct and absolute that they considered the quality and trend of the revolution wrong, since they did not conform to their views. They were so deep in their ideology that they considered it necessary to act to implement it. But each time the alertness of the leadership of the Islamic Revolution — which is entwined with the spirit of the revolution and also God's apparent watchful eye over the revolution — blocked these deviations.

These independent ideas, which result in nothing but the destruction of their owners, have been linked to both internal issues of the revolution and also the revolution's foreign connections. That is, their views not only concerned the quality and trend of the revolution, but also the role that the revolution should play in its foreign relations with the East and West.

All those who consider themselves to be part of the revolution should note that the Islamic Revolution is like a judge that always chooses the interests of Islam over those of the individual, hears nothing but the call of Islam, and does not give any verdicts or orders except for Islam. The revolution has so far shown that when dealing with its foreign enemies or corrupt individuals within, it has no mercy. If it were otherwise, the revolution would deviate from its original course and become the plaything of any independent thinker.

For a nation striving in the pursuit of the line of the leadership, giving blood, and tolerating thousands of shortages and economic and psychological pressure for the preservation of the Islamic Revolution, it is very easy to witness the downfall of those who used to incite various people with their speeches to weaken the revolution. For a nation that has sacrificed everything for Islam and the preservation of the revolution, it is necessary to take notice of the leader and those who are endorsed by the leader; only of course, for as long as this endorsement continues. But those who think that they understand the interests of Islam and the revolution better than others, the nation, and the leadership, should learn a lesson from the fate of those who were trodden on by the revolution, so that they once again believe that it is the revolution that is true and genuine.

Advanced Gunboats 'To Beef-Up' Naval Power

LD161934 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormuzgan Prov., Dec 16, IRNA — Islamic Revolution's committees naval units are to deploy advanced gunboats as well as bullet-proof chaser boats for better surveillance on the country's southern coasts.

A committee official told IRNA here Tuesday that the said boats are being deployed in a bid to beef-up the naval power of the committees in their fight against smugglers of luxury goods and narcotics as well as to prevent illegal traffic along the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea shores.

Coast surveillance with (?the) advanced boats is to start soon, said the official. He also noted that the committees have seized smuggled goods worth about 40 million dollars since March 21, 1986.

The plan is being implemented also with a view to checking possible subversive operations along the southern borders of Iran, said the official.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Residential Areas in Lorestan Hit

LD161602 Tehran IRNA in English 1554 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Khorramabad, Lorestan Prov., Dec 16, IRNA — Some 22 civilians were martyred and 48 others, mostly women and children, wounded when intruding Iraqi warplanes bombed four residential and industrial areas in Do Rud at 15:00 hours (11:30 GMT) Tuesday. Fifteen houses were also destroyed in the bombardment and relief workers are searching for possible wounded under the debris.

Communique No 2,687

LD161557 Tehran IRNA in English 1542 GMT 16 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Dec 16, IRNQ — Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants throughout the fronts on Monday, said a military communique here Tuesday.

Communique Number 2,687 released by the Joint staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that exchange of artillery fire continued in Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts Monday raging somewhat more heavily in Naft-e Shahr operational theater as a result of which a considerable number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and one munitions dump was set ablaze.

A convoy of Iraqi heavy vehicles and trailer trucks carrying tanks on Naft-e Shahr-Mandali axis suffered substantial losses when it came under heavy Iranian artillery fire on Monday, the communique said.

In the southern fronts, the communique said, Iranian forces shelled Iraqi positions especially in Kushk and Bubiyan operational regions Monday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops and setting fire to parts of their fortifications.

The joint staff communique furthermore said that Iranian Gendarmerie forces maintained their fire superiority over Iraqi troops in parts of the southern and western fronts Monday killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying several vehicles of theirs.

An Iraqi tank was destroyed and its crew was killed when Iranian artillery fire hit key enemy positions and concentration centers of their armoured units in Panjwin, northwestern fronts Monday, said the communique.

Elsewhere, the communique said that movement of an Iraqi armoured column was checked in Nahr-e Anbar operational region, southern fronts, Monday. It added that enemy patrol boats were forced to flee in areas overlooking Khorramshahr by Iranian artillery fire.